

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Cancel the abstract on page 8, lines 15-24 and insert the following:

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The sample taker comprises a hollow shank with a scoop fixedly connected at its distal end, a handling means provided at the proximal end of the 20 hollow shank and an actuation mechanism. An actuation rod is axially movable in the hollow shank and connectable to the actuation mechanism. A covering is allocated in the trough of the scoop. The covering is fastened to a distal end of the actuation rod and displaceable forwards and backwards.

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